

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05
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/080 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2990
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 6357

E.O. 11653 1, &\$
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, BG, US
SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPLIES AND TRAINING FOR BANGLADESH

REF: STATE 305325

1. I MET WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY TABARAK HUSAIN ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, AND BRIEFED HIM ON THE MATTERS COVERED REFTEL. TABARAK WAS DELIGHTED (AS I AM) THAT WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER SOME MILITARY TRAINING IN FY 77. HE NOTED THAT BANGLADESH'S MILITARY SERVICES ARE SMALL AND HARD-PRESSED. THERE MIGHT BE PROBLEMS IN RELEASING CERTAIN OFFICERS FOR TRAINING PURPOSES, AND HE THEREFORE HOPED OUR OFFER WOULD PROVIDE FOR MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY AND AS MANY OPTIONS AS POSSIBLE REGARDING VARIOUS COURSES. IN THIS WAY, THE BDG WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE MAXIMUM USE OF THE LIMITED FUNDS AVAILABLE. TABARAK SUGGESTED ALSO THAT DETAILS REGARDING TRAINING AND ALSO THE SHIP SALE (PARA 3) BE HANDLED IN DACCA.

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2. COMMENT: AGREE THAT STAFF AND COMMAND TYPE COURSES WOULD MAKE THE MOST SENSE AT THIS POINT BUT HOPE WITHIN FUNDING LIMITATIONS WE CAN ALSO OFFER SEVERAL TECHNICAL COURSES FROM THE LIST ADMIRAL KHAN PASSED TO THE DEPARTMENT LAST MONTH. FOR EXAMPLE, AIRFORCE CHIEF OF STAFF

MAHMOOD STRESSED IN A RECENT CONVERSATION THE
ESSENTIAL NEED FOR TRAINING IN AIR SAFETY PROCEDURES.
SOMETHING ALONG THIS LINE FOR THE BD AIR FORCE
WOULD BE USEFUL. END COMMENT.

3. ON THE SHIP SALE, TABARAK EXPRESSED
APPRECIATION AND SAID HE WOULD PASS THIS ON TO
THE NAVY. PRESSED FOR FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE
SHIP, I TOLD HIM I WOULD GET THE ANSWERS TO ANY
SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BUT SUGGESTED AT SOME POINT
THAT TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED BD NAVY PERSONNEL MIGHT
WANT TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT AND DISCUSS WITH OUR
TECHNICIANS THE TYPE OF EQUIPMENT TO BE INSTALLED.
COMMENT: IF THE BDG DECIDES TO TAKE THE LATTER
ROUTE, PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER A VISIT BY A BD NAVY
TECHNICAL TEAM WOULD BE APPROPRIATE BEFORE OR
AFTER WE COMPLETE OUR INITIAL PROCEDURES FOR THE
TRANSFER. ALSO, WHILE TABARAK DID NOT BOGGLE
AT THE \$350,000 REQUIRED TO OUTFIT THE VESSEL
FOR HYDROGRAPHIC PURPOSES, I EXPECT STRONG
PRESSURE ON THIS FROM ADMIRAL KHAN. GIVEN THE
HAND-TO-MOUTH BASIS ON WHICH THIS GOVERNMENT
OPERATES, I HOPE WE CAN KEEP THE COSTS TO THE
ABSOLUTE MINIMUM. END COMMENT.
MASTERS

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